(b) whether IIT, Delhi has entrusted the job to a relatively junior Faculty member; and

(c) if so, the reasons threrefor and steps taken by the Government to uplift the standard of handling consultancy projects by IIT, Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) No project on Construction Engineering has been awarded to Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi by Central Soil and Materials Research Station, Delhi. However, the Indian National Committee for Construction Materials and structures (Ministry of Water Resources) has awarded a research project on Micro-structure Modelling of Pozzolanic Construction Materials in May 1996. Dr. B. Bhattacharjee, Associate Prefessor who has been instrumental in setting up the Building Materials Lab in Civil Engineering Department is the principal investigator.

Family Wefare Programmes

2252. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the progress made in family walfare programme is upto the mark in the country;

(b) if not, whether the Government proposal to take any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As a result of implementaion of the Family Welfare Programme, the birth rate has declined from 41.7 per thousand population over the decade 1951-61 to 28.3 in 1995. The total Fertility Rate has declined from 5.97 over 1951-61 to 3.5 in 1993. The infant Mortality Rate has declined from 146 over 1951-61 to 74 per thousand live births in 1995. It is estimated that as a result of the Family Welfare Programme 197-39 million births have been averted upto March, 1996.

(b) and (c) The current focus of the Programme is on decentralisation and improvement in the quality of services. The system of setting contraceptive targets from the top has replaced by decentralised planning of services at the level of Primary Health Centre.

Funds for Boat Jetties

2253. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any existing scheme for providing funds for modernising and maintaining the boat jetties;

(b) if so, the funds allotted to Kerala for the above purpose during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to undertake the developmental activities of any jetties in the National Waterway in Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Funds allotted to Kerala for implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last three years are as under :—

	(Rs. in crores)
1993-94	0.50
1994-95	0.02
1995-96	0.33

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Development of jetties/terminals at 12 locations viz. Kottapuram, Kochi, Ernakulam, Aluva, Kakkanadu, Vaikom, Cherthala, Alappuzha, Thirukkunnapuzha, Kayamkulam, Chavara and Kollam on National Waterway in Kerala is proposed to be undertaken during 9th plan period.

Funds for Education to Minority Communities

2254. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently received a Memorandum from dignitaries of the Minority Communities on plan allocation for educational development of the educationally backward and deprived Minority communities;

(b) if so, the main suggestions made in the Memorandum; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main suggestions made in the memorandum are :

(i) Establishment of schools under the Area Intensive Scheme of development of minority institutions and modernisation of Madarsa Education. As Special case and in relaxation of normal rules, the requirement of recommendations of the State Governments could be dispensed with and the schemes could be transferred to some NGOs.

(ii) Establishment of Urdu University.